

Boston, Sept. 22, 1838.

Dear sister Mary:

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Though I have been but a few days in the city, and came here with an intention to keep very quiet in spirit until we should get our household affairs settled, yet I already begin to droop with excitement, and feel as if it will not require many weeks for me to lose in bodily weight, all that I gained during my pleasant sojourn in Brooklyn. In the midst of much business, pressing upon me like an avalanche, I seize my pen a moment just to say a few words to you, in a very hurried manner.

Helen is still in Providence. I find that there are very few houses to let, of any size; Lucy Parker and Mrs. Johnson have made extensive inquiries, and think it will be very difficult for me to get just such a house as I want, for some time to come. Fortunately, I am spared all further anxiety on the subject. Bro. Phelps, having lost his wife, wishes to let the house he occupies, and is very anxious that I should take it. He has it on a lease for one year longer, from the first of October. It is completely furnished, from the kitchen to the attic, in a very genteel style, by the owner of the house. The furniture cost not less than one thousand dollars. Bro. Phelps pays at the rate of \$400 a year, and taxes; but says I may have it for \$300. It is, in all respects, just what we want. The location is in a small court, very retired, and every thing around is almost as quiet as a country village. I have not positively engaged the house, because I first desired to know the mind of Helen respecting it. There



is little doubt that we shall take it. Bro. George, and all the friends at Hayward Place, think it is a rare chance. We can go into it any moment. I have written to Helen, telling her she can come on immediately, if she wishes. As it is quite certain that she will agree with me in opinion about taking the house, I wish Cecilia to be informed, that we wish her to come on to Boston without delay. - She had better leave Brooklyn on Thursday next, or, at the latest, on Saturday next, in the stage for Providence. Sister Charlotte says she can stay with her over night, and the next morning, either bro. Anthony or Wm. M. Chace will go down with her to the cars. I will be at the depot in Boston, on her arrival, with a carriage, and take her at once with Frederick to our house. Tell her I will pay her expenses. Should she leave on Saturday, she will of course have to stay at C's in P. until Monday morning. If any thing shall happen to detain her, it will not be very material, as there is a good colored woman living with bro. Phelps, who will stay with us till she comes. Still, I should prefer to have her leave on Thursday next, if convenient, so that she can be with us on Friday forenoon. Please write to me on the subject by Tuesday's mail.

Sister Sarah has sent word by bro. May, that she will tarry with us a short time. On her return, we shall expect to welcome mother to our home, without fail. Then you and dear Anna must follow in succession.

Am I not extremely fortunate? As there is every thing in the house that is needed, I shall not, of course,



have to buy or move any furniture. This will save me an outlay, at this time, of at least two hundred dollars — besides a great deal of time and difficulty in getting every thing together. There is a snug little back yard, where Frederick and George will have rare times together. On Monday, I shall begin to get in my coal, wood, provisions, &c. &c.

Our Peace Convention has just closed, and it has been full of absorbing interest. There were more than 150 persons, who enrolled their names as members — among them, quite a number of women, several of whom were immediately put upon committees. This so horrified some of the clergy, and others, that they ordered their names to be erased from the rolls. Only about ten or twelve left. A large proportion of those present were abolitionists. The discussions were very animating. Some very strong resolutions were adopted. Bro. George spoke several times with great power, and to great acceptance. Bro. May ran well for a time, but got strangely confused and frightened, and did not recover himself. I took a much more active part than I thought of doing. A committee of nine was appointed to draft a Declaration of Sentiments. I drew it <sup>up</sup>, and put into it all the fanaticism of my head and heart. To my amazement, it was adopted, after a warm discussion, by a vote of more than 5 to 1. It goes against every human government, all human politics, all penal enactments, and declares that no body of men have a right to imprison or destroy men for their crimes. It will make



a tremendous excitement in this country and Great Britain, and undoubtedly prepare the way for fresh mobs and more persecution. But my soul is in perfect peace, for my trust is in the living Lord. At the close of the Convention, a New-England Non-Resistance Society was formed, of which we made Effingham S. Capron President, bro. George one of the Vice Pres., myself Cor. Sec'y, Maria W. Chapman, Rec. Sec. Mrs. Southwick and Anna Weston were placed upon the Executive Committee. The next Liberator will contain some of the proceedings.

Single



Mary Benson,  
Care of Geo. W. Benson,  
Brooklyn,  
Connecticut.

Since my arrival in Boston, I have been staying at friend Southwick's. Bro. George has also stopped at the same place. He brought little Anna in from Waltham yesterday, and left this morning for the same town, expecting to be in Lowell this evening. Anna was very homesick - Henry Egbert is still in miserable health. George wishes bro. Lee to be informed, that it will not be in bro. May's power to make an exchange with him this fall. I have much more to write, but no room. Give my filial love to mother, and a brother's regards to sister Anne. Accept the same from yours, affectionately, Wm. Lloyd Garrison

As the Post-Office is closed, I cannot pay postage.